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College News

Vol. 9. No. 14. WELLESLEY, MASS., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1910 Price 5 Cents

PROF. GOW'S LECTURE ON MODERN OPERA.

The overthrowing of an old form of music and the introduction of a new can never fail to arouse displeasure and scorn from the majority, and it is with such a reception that most of the modern composers have been met. On Monday evening, January 24, Professor George Coleman Gow, of the Vassar Department of Music, explained exactly what was meant by "modern opera" and the problems involved in its success. The great question, upon whose solution the success of a perfect music drama depends, is, Professor Gow said, "How much should the dramatic enter into music? What is the limit to music in sound?" For the time has long since passed when the function of music has been regarded as being merely to soothe the feelings; the perfect opera, as the perfect drama, should set forth some phase of life, expounding both action and meaning—should, in other words, be "life and its connotive." In order to demonstrate the extent of the power of music to do this, Professor Gow divided all music into two classes: the æsthetic and the expressive. The æsthetic, he explained, was that whose beauty depended entirely on its construction, its musical form, balance and volume. The expressive, on the other hand, was divided into two classes: that which, by means of its quality and succession of tones, had the power of arousing moods, and that whose effectiveness was augmented by the association of ideas. As an example of this last class, Miss Sinclair played the "Pilgrim's Chorus" from "Tannhäuser." As a piece of music, this is, of course, impressive, but when we imagine the band of pilgrims piously chanting it on their way to Rome to seek forgiveness, its impressiveness is doubled. It is upon this last class that "program" or "descriptive" music relies for its success, for the mimic in music, as in literature, has its place. Miss Sinclair, to illustrate this mimicing power of music, played the "Conjuror's Song" in Purcell's "Indian Queen." In this, the conjuror is calling upon the god of sleep in the name of every repulsive animal, the picture of each of which has its own musical embodiment. On the other hand, Professor Gow showed the power of music to contradict, by quoting as an example the fact that in Gluck's "Iphegenia and Taurus," Orestes says that he is at peace with the world while the music, meanwhile, restless and sinister, denies his words, reminding us of his murder of his mother.

Therefore it is plain that music has the power to produce debatable ground—a dramatic clash, and it is the preparing and resolving of this clash which constitutes the successful opera. The perfect music drama, Professor Gow said, is yet to be composed, unless perhaps, as many critics think, it is De Bussy's "Pélleas and Mélisande." Wagner never succeeded in creating a perfect opera, although this was his one ambition, because "he fell too much in the pit of his own loveliness." His actors did not promote the action of the drama; they were merely illustrative pictures. The orchestra explained and advanced the plot, described the characters and brought the actors to a dramatic situation, which Wagner, overcome with his musical ideals, would prolong to a length wholly out of proportion to its function in the drama. As an example of this weakness of Wagner's, Miss Sinclair played the music of the scene between Hans Sachs and Eva in Wagner's "Meistersinger," and Professor Gow, by first reading their conversation, showed how unproportional to its importance in the drama the scene was.

In the modern operas, however—by "modern operas" are meant those composed only in the twentieth century—composers are attempting to keep the music in its proper place, as merely the servant to the drama. In "Pélleas and Mélisande," the same musical wealth as in Wagner is experienced, and yet the action of the drama is never sacrificed to the music. To demonstrate this, Miss Sinclair played the beginning of the fountain scene in "Pélleas and Mélisande." Throughout the opera, the music is subtle, elusive and imaginative—a thin, transparent gauze enveloping the drama itself.

The only question is: Are all modern operas as successful as "Pélleas and Mélisande?" Professor Gow answered that there have been innumerable failures, with only once in a while one verging on success. The trouble is that composers are only too ready to follow the old Wagnerian form and only too loath to look to the future for new forms. There is always room for "the good old opera" but that good old opera has been perfected and a new kind must be sought. M. W.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT MEETING.

A meeting of the Student Government Association was held Friday afternoon, January 28, in College Hall Chapel. After the reading of the minutes, the report of the House Presidents was read. Caroline Vose read the report from the Students' Building Fund. The next business of the meeting was the election of the representative to the International Institute League. After Ruth Fletcher had explained the duties of the representative, nominations were made, and Mary Hewitt, 1911, was elected. The president then gave the decision of the Executive Board in regard to the South Natick Inn. The girls are to leave the Inn by 7.30 in winter and 8.00 in summer. Miss Douglas cautioned the girls about coming home in small numbers alone. Kate Parsons explained a suggested amendment to the constitution of the COLLEGE NEWS. The amendment requires that (1) the Editor-in-Chief of the NEWS shall be from the Senior Class, and (2) there shall be two new members from the Sophomore Class, making the board number eight instead of six. Another Student Government meeting is to be held on Tuesday, February 8, to vote on this amendment and to discuss the question of an open Tree Day. The next business of the meeting was the accepting of the amendment concerning the election of House Vice-presidents. Another amendment was then read concerning the granting of permissions by House Presidents for traveling on Sunday, and after discussion, this amendment was also adopted. Next followed the consideration of the amendment concerning a Freshman member on the Executive Board. Ruth Eliot then made a plea for greater quiet in the Mary Hemenway Hall. The meeting was then formally adjourned.

MRS. KELLY'S LECTURE.

The lecture given by Mrs. Florence Kelly on Monday night, was one of great interest. Mrs. Kelly, who is general secretary of the National Consumers' League, spoke of the minimum wage for girls and of the efforts of the League for legislation in this regard. The lecture was quite informal.

Mrs. Kelly spoke of the attempt made by the league to fix the minimum weekly wage for women at $6. This, she explained, is really a "sub-minimum" wage, since even on this, no girl, who must depend on her own income, or who must contribute to the support of others, can live without very grave physical or moral detriment. Reference was made to Miss Goldmark's researches in Fatigue, which prove the great danger of overwork to the public health. The necessity for a minimum wage was emphasized by the fact of an overwhelming number of young women workers in the field.

(Concluded on Page 4.)

College News.

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All subscriptions should be sent to Miss Alice R. Porter.

All advertising correspondence should be addressed to Miss B. M. Beckford, Wellesley.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, Kate S. Parsons, 1911
ASSOCIATE EDITOR, Ruth Evans, 1911
LITERARY EDITORS,
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Muriel Batchelder, 1912
ALUMNÆ EDITOR, Elizabeth W. Manwaring, 1902
BUSINESS MANAGER, Elizabeth Nofsinger, 1910
SUBSCRIPTION EDITOR, Alice R. Porter, 1910
ASSISTANTS,
Ridie Guion, 1911 Frances Gray, 1912

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EDITORIAL.

WHAT THE COLLEGE GIRL READS.

THE STATEMENTS that every other girl in college reads Macterlinck and Ibsen, or that seven-eighths of the college are so rushed they never get a chance to read everything—these are interesting but not accurately enlightening. Does the college girl find time to read? If so, what does she read? Does she read for pleasure or improvement? Does her college course affect her outside reading? These are questions for which we have attempted to approximate answers by statistics taken from the three upper classes here at Wellesley. Four hundred and fifty girls have been interviewed; in each case all questioning applied to the reading done voluntarily, not at the instigation of the instructor. The results obtained are at best only approximate, although they sound statistically iron-bound; they have been obtained as carefully as possible, but the average girl doesn't know why she reads and frequently has such an elastic habit of reading that it is hard to determine what she reads.

The regular reading of the daily newspaper is more prevalent than might be supposed from the inability of the average college girl to discuss current events. Of the four hundred and fifty girls, one hundred and sixty-five habitually read some daily, the great majority showing a preference for the Boston Herald. Do they read the editorials? No, they don't. They do more than skim the headlines and absorb the society column, but few pretend to read what doesn't interest them. Here and there is found the girl who can and does read the newspaper as a whole, but she is rare. The tendency seems to be toward the time-saving weekly which offers the current events necessary for decent enlightenment in a concentrated form. Two hundred and thirty-five girls read weeklies regularly and with a fair amount of thoroughness. Lest this be deceptive, the more detailed statistics obtained from about two hundred girls might best be added. Current events were represented by the Outlook, read by 40; the Saturday Evening Post, read almost always for its fiction, 22; and Life, read for what you will, 37.

Almost every girl in college reads a weekly or monthly magazine. The girl who finds time for neither is the rare exception. The magazines are in most cases read for their fiction. About three-fourths of the students read Harper's, Scribner's or Century. One-fourth read the Ladies' Home Journal. The Atlantic Monthly is read about as prevalently as Everybody's. About five per cent. of the students read some religious magazine regularly. Many of the magazines are light and useless, but very few read the cheaply trashy monthly. A pitifully small number of students read scientific publications. None read French or German magazines regularly.

The conclusions to be drawn from the attitude of the student toward the daily and the periodical is that the tendency is away from the daily toward the weekly for information—a rather slight tendency, for it is strongly counteracted by the opposite leaning—that toward the magazine of the pretty pictures and the mercifully short story.

The demand for short stories is almost universal but that is not because we are at Wellesley, but because we are modern and American. Does the student read only the short story, however? No, indeed. The reports from the novel readers were encouraging as to quantity—something different as to quality. A fifth of the four hundred and fifty still read Dickens and Scott, Thackeray and Jane Austen, and all the good old leisurely ramblers over whose oblivion our fathers and mothers—and our instructors shake their heads mournfully. On the other hand, almost a half of the four hundred and fifty confessed to the habitual reading of the light novel. The readers of the good modern novel, the novel that will survive this present-day flood of pleasing literature, make up a fourth of the whole, but a most encouraging fourth. Stevenson and Kipling are quoted as "favorite authors," but in most cases this reduces to favorite essayist and favorite short story writer. Of the novelists, Meredith heads the list with Mr. Hewlett and Mr. DeMorgan as close seconds. Mrs. Wharton is popular but more read for short stories than for her novels. Mr. James? Only six—here and there.

From four hundred and fifty, thirty-six have read a biography within the past few months. With a few exceptions, these have been the biographies of Alice Freeman Palmer or Carla Wenckebach. Forty-five read essays for pleasure and with a fair amount of regularity. Nearly all the essayists read are modern, Emerson standing at the head of the list with Carlyle a close second. No one reads Bacon or Montaigne; perhaps they savor too much of the academic to afford the reader enjoyment. One hundred and twenty-six girls read poetry for pleasure. Tennyson is the favorite, followed by Wordsworth, Browning and Kipling. Four girls read Goethe and five Heine. Present-day poetry is not prevalently read—Carman, Symonds, even Swinburne are usually unmentioned.

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E. O. PERKINS.

EDITORIAL—Continued.

The interest in drama is inereasing. Nearly a fourth of the four hundred and fifty had read several plays very reeently. With the few exceptions of those who enjoy Shakespeare and can gain pleasure from the German plays, the drama read is all modern. There is a wide-spread affection for the poetical, the lyrieal drama, such as it is, manufaetured by Mr. Yeats and Mrs. Marks (Josephine Preston Peabody)—these two are widely popular. Last of all we eome to the ever diseussed Ibsen, Maeterlinek and Shaw. It will perhaps quench the ardor of those who either deplore or admire the great popularity of these writers to learn that thirty-two from four hundred and fifty, one fifteenth by those interviewed, have a steady attachment to the productions of these idols.

Summing up the investigation, it may be said that outside of the vast amount of reading done for mere pleasure, there is a genuine interest in very few of the literary departments enumerated with one exeeption. Interest in poetry is æsthetic, a bit contemplative and antique; interest in the novel is a little more genuine; interest in biography praetically eenters about two books for the sake of their Wellesley eonneetions; interest in essays is absolutely dead and harmless, but in the interest shown in the drama there is hope. Girls are reading the drama that is the talk of the day, the drama of to-day's stage, and showing a lively and spreading interest in it. The tendeney is most eneouraging; as for the promise exhibited in the remainder of our investigations—well, judge for yourselves.

Ed. Note: Sincere thanks are due those who have made the above artiele possible—the interviewed as well as the interviewer.

Attention is ealled to the program of the mid-year music published on page 6 of this issue. In addition there is a notiee of the more formal weekly organ recitals whieh will continue through February and March. The latter will be more edueative in eharaeter than the rather reereative after-chapel music to be given during mid-years. For both of these opportunities the eollege, mindful of past enjoyment, is grateful to Professor MaeDougall. It is to be hoped that, for the sake of individual gain, appreciation of these opportunities for good musie will materialize in the form of large attendance.

Miss Muriel Baeheller, 1912, has been reeeived as Sophomore editor on the Editorial Board of the News.

EXHIBITIONS.

Copley Gallery: Mr. Kronberg's Paintings.
Gardner's Gallery: Mr. Anderson's Paintings.
St. Botolph Club: Mr. Benson's Paintings.
Doll & Richards: Mr. Bolt's Paintings.
Doll & Richards: Drawings by Charles Keene.
Doll & Richards: Etchings by Felix Buhot.
Vose's Gallery: Mr. Kendall's Paintings.
Museum of Fine Arts: Etchings by Whistler.
Fogg Art Museum: Drawings by Ruskin.
Kimball's Gallery: Scott and Fowle's Collection.
Boston City Club: Miss Richardson's Paintings.

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COLLEGE CALENDAR.

Thursday, February 3, at 4.20 o'clock in the Houghton Memorial Chapel, the first organ reeital by Professor MacDougall.

Saturday, February 6. An exhibition of the work of the students in the Art Department, in the Art Building.

Sunday, February 6, at 11, A.M. Communion service in the Houghton Memorial Chapel. Sermon by the Reverend Albert J. Lyman, D. D., of Brooklyn.

Vespers at 7, A.M. Address by Edward C. Carter at the invitation of the Missionary Committee.

Monday, February 7, at 7.30 o'clock, in College Hall Chapel, a leeture by Professor William R. Brooks of Geneva, New York, on "The Comet and Star System."

COLLEGE NOTES.

"The Spirit of Youth and the City Streets," by Miss Jane Addams, has been added to the Soeial Study book shelf in the newspaper room.

There was a delegation meeting of all the girls who went to summer conferences and to the Rochester Convention at Agora House, Friday evening.

Saturday, January twenty-seeond, the Seniors gave a reception to the students of the Department of Hygiene and Physical Eduea-tion. The floor was eleared for dancing, and there were refreshments for the dancers.

The Christian Association meeting was held Thursday evening, January 27, in College Hall Chapel. Dorothy Mills led the meeting, and with Dorothy Dey and Hazel Nutter, told us of the work Wellesley has been doing in the vacation sehool of South Boston. Work with the ehildren is most interesting, and the vacation sehool is a real help to the parents, as well as a benefit to the children.

Seribblers met Friday evening at Zeta Alpha. Miss Sapinsky and Dr. Loekwood read.

At a meeting of the Versifiers' Club this week, verse was read by Miss Manwaring, Miss Snyder, Miss Douglas and Miss Kelly.

Miss Vivian lectured last week to students of History 15 on the recent Turkish Resolution.

THEATER NOTES.

Majestic: Jefferson De Angelis in "The Beauty Spot."
Colonial: Marie Tempest in "Penelope."
Park: "The Man from Home."
Shubert: Southern and Marlowe in Shakespeare.
February 7. "The Midnight Sons."
Tremont: "Rebeeea of Sunnybrook Farm."
Hollis-street: Maud Adams in "What Every Woman Knows."
Castle Square: "Othello."

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MRS. KELLY'S LECTURE—Continued.

Though this amount is below the requirement, there has been little success in the attempt to obtain it as a minimum. Indeed, thus far no attempts to better the condition of working girls have gone far. Even the provision for a ten-hour day, made legal over sixty years ago in England, is here still "unconstitutional," as attacking "freedom of contract." The latest development in England went into effect last January. It embodies a new, almost a revolutionary principle. There are to be created, through the Board of Trade, district committees, which, after investigating living conditions and wages, are to decide on a minimum wage, for certain trades. The members of this board are to be employers and employees, including women. Their findings are to be made public. A bill, adapting this idea to conditions here, is to be presented to the next session of the Massachusetts State Legislature. Though a long struggle will probably ensue, the beginning, at least, will be made.

Throughout her lecture, Mrs. Kelly spoke again and again of the increasing body of knowledge on economic subjects, of the attention they now receive in universities and of the fact that the indifferent can no longer plead ignorance.

After the lecture, Mrs. Kelly spoke informally in the Faculty Parlor, on the shirt-waist strike. She brought out the lack of a standard of conditions of labor, or of wages, and made clear the two-fold struggle the girls are so bravely carrying on, one against the factories, the other against illegal arrest. She added a point not well known, that no investigation has brought to light any effort at arbitration on the part of the employers.

On being asked how we might help, Mrs. Kelly said that, after financial assistance, "the realization," by the girls and the public in general, "that they can command intelligent sympathy," and the "moral support of the colleges" is the best assistance.

R. A.

TOWN HALL MEETINGS.

The following notice may be of use in case of any desire to complain of carriage service, in Wellesley, to call attention of officers to any points and to ask for any information.

Commencing Saturday, January 15, 1910, and until further notice, except during the summer months of June, July and August, a member of the Board of Selectmen will be at the Town Hall from three until five o'clock on Saturday afternoons for the purpose of taking up and acting upon any matters that a citizen may desire to bring up. In case it is inconvenient to present a matter in person, it will be attended to if called to the attention of the Board by telephone, and in the case of citizens not having a telephone the call may be made at the expense of the Town by having the charge reversed. If it shall be found that there is not enough business to warrant a continuance of this practice, it will be discontinued after a notice to that effect.

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A BRIEF.

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I hear you say both Ec. and Chem.,
Our rep. demands an exposish.—
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Your crit. in Comp. is just delish.

Now Psyc. and Zoo., Stu. G. and Vill.
I can endure to hear you say,
But how it hurts to hear the "Gym."
In place of "Mary Hemenway!"

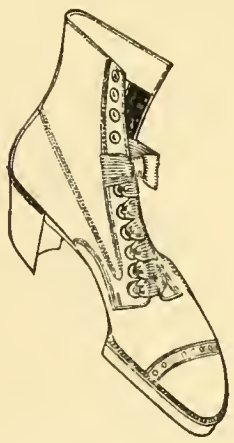
LECTURE ON PASTEUR.

Those who attended the lecture on "Pasteur," given by Dr. Thompson of the Zoology Department on January 22, heard an unusually keen and inspiring presentation of the life of this indefatigable scientist, who may be called the founder of the science of bacteriology, and the pioneer in the use of inoculation for prevention of disease. The lecturer told simply and vividly of the patience of Pasteur and his bravery in the use of scientific methods yet untried. Much of his work was extremely valuable to commerce, as his investigations of the secrets of fermentation, of the silk-worm epidemic, and the diseases of animals. The scientific world is particularly indebted to him for his explosion of the theory of spontaneous generation, and its replacement by the germ theory, his new method in sanitation, and his campaign against hydrophobia. The Pasteur Institute, founded by him in Paris in 1888, stands as the practical monument of his genius, and continues in his work of preventive research.

M. B.

GENERAL AID BULLETIN.

The need of some general way of making known to students opportunities for work and inquiries from employers has been long known to the administration of the college. A bulletin board, under the management of the General Aid Committee, has been placed at the extreme west end, left hand, of the west corridor of the second floor of College Hall. Anyone who wishes to make known a position or other opportunity of work is at liberty to place a notice on this board. The regulations posted in the left-hand column of the board are important.



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FREE PRESS.

I.

I would like to make a plea for a "Lecture Bulletin Board," where each morning would be posted all the special lectures of every department that were to be given that day. Sometimes the dates of the lectures are so uncertain that they cannot be published in the NEWS, and consequently few, outside of the members of the class, really know the exact time.

Many of us are continually regretting our lost privileges and opportunities of hearing some of the very interesting and worthwhile lectures that are given right in our midst. I would like to suggest that each morning the notices for lectures in each department for that day be handed in to the Registrar's office, where they may be posted on a special Bulletin Board.

EDITH KOON, 1911.

II.

There are doubtless some students in college who are asking themselves near the mid-year time: "Considering financial difficulties at home, should I return for my second year or even for the second half of my first year?" You are ready to use all your energies to earn your way; your family are willing to economize to the utmost for your sake. But stop and think before you go on just now. If you are borrowing money to complete your course, it will be many years before you are able to help your family, while this is just the time that your help is needed. Because the writer has passed through a similar experience she would ask you to remember, while bravely clinging to your ambition, that service to the family at home comes before even a college education; she would urge you to foresee how great a sacrifice your parents will have to undergo, and ask yourself if you are willing to let them make it for you. Would it not be better for you to wait a few years, even at the cost of present college friendships, in order that you may earn your own way later? If the college education is never possible—what then? Something even finer will take the place of an education blindly and selfishly pursued and the motto of the college you have already learned to love will have its full significance for you.

AN ALUMNA.

III.

As I understand them, the main objections to the societies are: That the members are unkindly, even rudely, exclusive; that a non-society girl cannot have a full natural friendship with a society member; that the basis of invitation is not a fixed or lofty standard; that the society girl takes her strength from work and puts it into futile society enterprises; and that she belongs first to the society and then to the college. The objection is also made, that what all cannot have, the few should not enjoy.

The advantages are: The societies provide centers for common interest, sufficiently organized to make individual effort effective; they teach the art of living with people; they are enriching in the close contact (which is so hard to attain) with a somewhat varied, but not unwieldy group.

As to the snobbishness—certainly the "rushing" about invitation time hurts those of the unelect deeply, and is both vulgar and unnecessary. Neither is it quite thoughtful for the members to be so unduly affectionate in public and so wrapt up in each other to the almost utter exclusion of those outside, as sometimes happens. And it is not right that a non-society girl should feel she compromises herself in making friendly advances to some one she likes, who is in a society. But this is not normal, and the wrong is not wholly on one side. There are natural snobs, of course,—but most of the society girls you know are not loath to talk of their societies in a friendly, hospitable way; and they seem much less keen in discerning ulterior motives and in judging "how so-and-so is playing her cards," than we who are not directly concerned. It's a case of supersensitiveness on our part, which has a slight ground in the attitude of the societies.

The big trouble, I think, is in the basis of selection. Suppose the first consideration be made community of taste, and no one not closely drawn to the work of the society will expect to become a member; every one then must contribute her share to the end of the organization. Then let the academic standard be high and no girl once conditioned be admitted without recognition by the faculty of some special intellectual ability. Finally, consider her ability to live happily with the members already elected. The membership should be restricted to the upper classmen. Then make it customary (as in the Twentieth Century Club) to apply for admittance to the society with which you wish to affiliate; and if it has a definite platform which is well known, very few refusals can be given. For odd cases in which the girl will not take the initiative, let the society itself ask her to join it. Allowing time for the change in opinion possible in one generation.—what would happen to the snobbishness, the hurt feelings and the aborted friendships?

And wouldn't the work be good, too? Suppose it does take time from the formally academic. The study and leisurely reading we do independently often helps us even more than the other work. Besides this, quite without the "fraternity spirit," the opportunity for contact with a varied group of girls of like tastes, is a treasure, a thing we all long for. And even though we can't all have it, why should our incapacity (for on this basis it would be incapacity) debar those who are able?

The Student Building is quite possible even so; all the upper classmen would join in it (perhaps in the small groups Fräulein Müller suggested) and the societies would simply give the personal outlet for our interests which the less individual organization could not secure and for which not all are fit.

I hereby apologize to the alumnæ who suggested this notion, for it is not all my own and I think it worth expressing.

MARY E. COLLETT, 1910.

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CHAPEL MID-YEAR MUSIC.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9.
Ballet music, "Rosamunde".....Schubert
Overture, "Rosamunde".....Schubert

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10.
Berceuse.....Kinder
St. Cecilia Offertoire.....Batiste

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11.
Overture and Soldiers' Chorus, "Faust".....Gounod

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12.
March, "Die Meistersinger"
Pilgrims' Chorus, "Tannhäuser"
Evening Star, "Tannhäuser" } .....Wagner

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15.
Meditation, "Thais".....Massenet
Barcarolle, "Contes d'Hoffmann".....Offenbach

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16.
Duet, "Micaela and Don Jose," First Act.....Bizet
Overture from "Carmen."

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17.
March, "Pomp and Circumstance".....Edward Elgar
Humorous Variations in the style of the masters, Bach, Haydn, Mozart, Gounod, Verdi and Wagner.....S. Ochs

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18.
Request programme. Requests may be sent to Mr. Macdougall through the resident mail.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19.
"Marche militaire".....Schubert
Impromptu on Class and College melodies.

The music will be given directly after chapel and will last not longer than fifteen minutes.

Mr. Macdougall will begin his Mid-year Organ Recitals on Thursday, February 3, in the Memorial Chapel, at 4.20 P.M. These recitals occur weekly up to the Easter vacation. Every member of the College is cordially invited to attend.

THE SYMPHONY LECTURE.

At the lecture on the Symphony on Wednesday afternoon, January 26, Professor Macdougall spent most of the time on a discussion of the Prelude and Death Song of Wagner's "Tristan and Isolde"—the last number on the program—for Saturday night. He read Wagner's own impassioned description of the story of Tristan, how Tristan comes to woo Isolde for his lord and how she, unable to resist him, follows to be another's bride; how the Goddess of Love, outraged by this breach of her laws, contrives to get them to drink a mighty love potion, instead of the poison by which they hope to die together; how this potion works in them, creating a longing, ever-increasing and insatiable, until the might of it grows beyond human endurance and they both are dead from it. Professor Macdougall pointed out that it was this passionate longing that was the spirit of the whole opera, and he played a passage peculiarly powerful in its portrayal—achromatic passage—struggling, twisting, turning, finally bursting into a great chord and then into lyric melody. Dr. Macdougall also played the theme of the woe of Tristan and then, feeling that it could now be tolerably appreciated, he played a bit of the prelude and the last part of the Death Song. The final cadence, with a beautiful tonic chord, seemed in curious contradiction to the restlessness of the opera and the tragic end of it. Mr. Macdougall suggested that this might be merely a concession to the conservatives of Wagner's time, or else the incarnation of the spirit of the old tradition that out of the graves of the lovers an ivy and a vine grew up interwoven—symbol of their final union.

BOSTON OPERA HOUSE
A monograph by F. H. Jackson, illustrated with portraits and diagrams of the seats, and blank leaves for making notes of the various OPERAS and ARTISTS from the first performance. Can also be used as an AUTOGRAPH Album. Price, $1.00; by mail, $1.15
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OBSERVATORY NOTES.

The comet conspicuous in the western sky the last week was an unexpected apparition. In some way it escaped the comet-seekers till it was near the sun, and under its powerful influence had a well-developed head and phenomenal tail. It seems a kind of astronomical joke that this comet made its dash for perihelion passage and "got there" first, while the much-heralded Halley's is yet beyond the earth's orbit, an inconspicuous telescopic object. Professor W. R. Brooks, who lectures on "Comets and the Solar System" the evening of February 7th, will tell what is known of these strange objects. He discovered his first comet in 1881 with a telescope of his own construction, and among the score of comets he has discovered since are two, which, like Halley's comet, performed their circuit through the solar system in some seventy years. It has not yet been determined whether the unexpected "comet of 1910" is periodic or not.

BOOKS FOR ASTRONOMY.

Every year letters are received from Alumnæ who have come to consciousness of ignorance of the universe outside our little earth, asking what books will enable them to learn the brightest stars, and find out some of the fundamental facts of astronomy. These letters are gladly answered as far as time permits, but the last correspondent suggests that the titles of useful books be published in the NEWS, so here is a short list:

"The Constellations and How to Find Them," by William Peck. Silver, Burdett and Co. This is an atlas with directions how to find the stars.

"Astronomy with an Opera Glass," by Garrett P. Serviss. Appleton and Co.

"The Friendly Stars," by Martha E. Martin. Harper and Brothers. This book sums up what is known of each of the brighter stars.

"The Solar System," by Charles Lane Poor. G. P. Putnam's Sons, outlines our knowledge of the system to which we belong.

"Astronomy for Everybody," by Simon Newcomb (McClure, Phillips and Co.), and the "Story of the Heavens," by Sir Robert Ball (Cassell and Co.) are two books written by great astronomers who have the rare gift of lucid style to set forth facts for non-professional readers.

For those who wish to go deeper into the subject, the "History of Astronomy in the Nineteenth Century," by Agnes Clerke, and the "Study of Stellar Evolution," by George Hale of Mt. Wilson Solar Observatory, will prove fascinating reading. This is a good list, but doubtless another equally good might be made.

SARAH F. WHITING.

EXHIBITION OF ART STUDENT'S WORK.

The customary Mid-year's exhibition of the work of Art 5 and Art 16 will be open to the public during Monday, February 7, in the studios of the Art Building.

The work of Art 5 for the first semester is modelling in clay, and the exhibition is held at this time as it is impossible to keep any examples of clay for the final exhibition in June, the work then being represented by photographs. This occasion is also taken to show from Art 16 a complete series of original problems in spacing, illustrating the treatment of line, contrast and several tones. Designs are shown for posters, book notices, fans and bookplates.

The students in the two courses will entertain their friends at a reception and private view on Saturday afternoon, February 5, and it is hoped that the college at large will visit the studios on Monday to examine the exhibition, which is distinctly interesting.

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BALTIMORE ASSOCIATION FELLOWSHIP.

The Baltimore Association for the Promotion of the University Education of Women offers a fellowship of $600 for the year 1910-1911 available for study at an American or European University.

As a rule this fellowship is awarded to candidates who have done one or two years of graduate work, preference being given to women from Maryland and the South.

In exceptional instances the fellowship may be held two successive years by the same person.

Blank forms of application may be obtained from the President or from any member of the Committee on Award.

All applications must be in the hands of the Chairman of the Committee on Award before March 15th, 1910.

DR. MARY SHERWOOD, Chairman, (The Arundel).
MISS S. R. CARTER, (St. Timothy's School, Catonsville, Md.)
MISS EDITH HAMILTON (Bryn Mawr School).
MISS JULIA R. ROGERS (The Belvedere).
DR. LILIAN WELSH, (The Woman's College).

Important Change in Glee Club Concert Ticket Notice

The time of the Faculty Sale is changed from 4.15-6.00 to 3.15-4.30.

Also time of Senior choosing of seats should be changed from 9.00-12.00 to 10.00-12.30. A. R. P.

LOST.

After vacation. A new tan leather suit-case which must have been delivered at the wrong house. If anyone knows of an unclaimed suit-case, please notify Edith E. Willson, 28 Freeman Cottage.

If anyone has found a note-book with Literature VI, English Language IV, Geology III, and Economics VI notes, will she please return it at once to Beulah I. Bowen, 420 College Hall.

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ALUMNÆ NOTES.

In addition to notes concerning graduates, the Alumnæ column will contain items of interest about members of the Faculty, past and present, and former students.

Miss Bessie Sargeant Smith, a graduate of the class of 1895, and niece of Mrs. Henry Fowle Durant, has resigned her position in the Utica Public Library to accept an appointment in Cleveland. In accepting her resignation, the Board of Trustees of the Utica Public Library passed the following resolution:

"Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of the Utica Public Library accept with regret the resignation of Miss Bessie Sargeant Smith as First Assistant Librarian, and express to her their appreciation of her excellent work; and to bear witness personally to her faithfulness, courtesy, and ability."

The following letter was sent to Miss Smith from the trustees:

"Utica, New York, November 4, 1909.

"At their meeting this noon the Board of Trustees of the Utica Public Library accepted your resignation, and did so with regret, for you may be sure we are all very sorry to have you leave. Nevertheless we recognize the fact that your Cleveland appointment is in a certain sense a promotion, and that it is for your own best interest to accept it. The Secretary will send you a copy of the resolution of the Board, but as Chairman of the Library Committee with whom your work has thrown you a bit more, perhaps, than with the other members, I desire to add a word.

"Every duty that has been imposed upon you has been performed well, willingly and thoroughly, and I do not recall a complaint of or from you, though I know at times you may have had cause to complain.

"I wish to express to you my appreciation of your ability, your faithfulness and your never-failing courtesy, and to wish you all happiness and success in your new position.

"Very sincerely yours,

"W. Doolittle."

Dr. Caroline Hedger, 1889–90, of the United Charities of Chicago, was made a director of the American Association for the Study and Prevention of Infant Mortality at the meeting held at Yale University in November.

In the February Scribner's is the following poem by Miss Jewett:

Of Transient Beauty.

"Rose-flower and flower of grass and flower of flame
Drift to the Beauty whence their beauty came:
Fainter are they, more brief than this June wind,
Yet for the impalpable grace they leave behind
The years may fashion an immortal name."

Miss Geraldine Gordon, 1900, has begun her work in connection with the College Settlements Association, at the Philadelphia Settlement, 433 Christian Street. As the house is a center for the strike sympathizers, Miss Gordon has done picket duty for the shirt-waist girls on many occasions.

Miss Mildred Neal, 1909, is teaching in the Merrimac (Mass.) High School.

Miss Gertrude Sanborn, 1898, has given up her work at the Laboratory Kitchen, in Boston, and will spend the rest of the winter in San Antonio. Address in care of the Laboratory Kitchen, 50 Temple Place, Boston.

Miss Annie B. Philbrick, 1902, spent a week in Wellesley recently.

Dr. Eleanor Stephenson, 1895, sails on January 29 for India, to resume her work in the hospital at Ahmednagar.

BIRTHS.

January 11, 1910, at Nice, France, a daughter, Olive, to Mrs. Alfred Owen Graham (Louise Hunter, 1904).

January 25, 1910, at Mount Vernon, New York, a daughter to Mrs. Joseph K. Pettengill (Frances G. Sherman, 1907).

December 18, 1909, in Boise, Idaho, a son, Daniel Brown, to Mrs. Howard Ward Taggart (Agnes Brown, 1902).

DEATHS.

January 21, 1910, at Jamestown, New York, Mrs. Daniel Griswold, mother of Martha T. Griswold, 1899.

In Washington, D.C., the infant son of Mrs. Eugene Merritt (Caroline Waller, 1898).

January 17, 1910, in Rock Springs, Wyoming, Mr. P. T. Buckley, father of Beulah Buckley, 1909.

January 10, 1910, in Brattleboro, Vermont, Mrs. George W. Pierce, sister of Lilla Weed, 1902, of the Library.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.

Mrs. Harley Cramer (Vera C. Bowen, 1903), The Genessee, Lockport, New York.

Mrs. Otto D. Donnell (M. Glenn McClelland, 1906), 931 South Main Street, Findlay, Ohio.

Miss Mary S. Miller, 1890, 369 John R. Street, Detroit, Michigan.

Mrs. William Cate (Florence Spring, 1897), 1502 West Norwegian Street, Pottsville, Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Henry B. Wright (Josephine Hayward, 1898), 143 York Street, New Haven, Connecticut.

Miss Theodore Skidmore, 1894, 154 Second Avenue, Newark, New Jersey.

Mrs. William O. Allen (Eva Jackson, 1899), 136½ Benton Avenue, Springfield, Missouri.

Mrs. Carl E. Hine (Ruth Berst, 1906), 106 East Second Street, Frederick, Maryland.

Mrs. Alfred O. Graham (Louise Hunter, 1906), 13 Avenue Baguis, Nice, South France.

Miss Mathilde von Beyersdorff, 1900, Morges, Canton Vaud, Switzerland.

Miss Julia Holder, 1901–1903, 221 East 52 Street, New York City.

Miss Elizabeth Yeates, 1906, 54 Adams Street, Somerville, Massachusetts.